

Application No.: 09/402,707  
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Docket No.: 570-28 PCT/USA  
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-Membranes were incubated with Strep-AP (3 DEA U/ml) in TBST for 15 minutes at 37°C.

-NC-membranes were washed 3 times 5 minutes in TBS solution followed by a 5 minute wash step in demineralised water.

-Membranes were incubated with NBT/BCIP substrate solution for 15 minutes at 37°C, subsequently washed in demineralised water and air dried.

#### REMARKS

Claims 23-105 are pending in this application. Claims 51-105 were withdrawn from consideration in the March 22, 2001 office action as being drawn to a non-elected invention. Accordingly, claims 23-50 are under consideration. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

In paragraphs 1-6 of the office action, Examiner Sisson required restriction of the invention into four groups as follows:

Group I, claim(s) 23-50, drawn to a method for labeling a nucleotide.

Group II, claim(s) 51-54, drawn to a labeled nucleotide.

Group III, claim(s) 55-79, drawn to a method of labeling a nucleotide.

Group IV, claim(s) 80-105, drawn to a labeled substance having formula VII.

Applicants' representative elected Group I, claims 23-50 without traverse during a personal interview on March 1, 2001. Applicants affirm the election, as required in paragraph 6 of the office action.

Applicants thank Examiner Sisson for pointing out in paragraphs 8 and 9 of the office action that the proprietary nature of trademarks should be respected. Applicants have amended the specification as suggested by the examiner.

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